

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 2199

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NO, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)
SUBJECT: SUGGESTED TOAST FOR DINNER OF FOREIGN MINISTER

1. MR. PRIME MINISTER, FOREIN MINISTER FRYDENLUND,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE HERE WITH
YOU IN OSLO. MR. MINISTER, YOU HAVE BEEN AS PERSISTENT
AND AS PATIENT AS YOU HAVE BEEN GRACIOUS IN INVITING
ME HERE.

2. I HAVE FOUND, AS I KNOW MOST AMERICANS DO, THAT
IT IS EASY FOR US TO FEEL AT HOME IN YOUR COUNTRY.
WE ARE AMONG FRIENDS AND WE FEEL IT. WE ARE COMFORTABLE,
AND WE KNOW WE CAN SPEAK TO YOU DIRECTLY AND OPENLY.

3. THIS FRANKNESS AND MUTUAL CONFIDENCE IS THE
HEART OF OUR LONGSTANDING AND INTIMATE BILATERAL
RELATIONSHIP; IT IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR CLOSE
COOPERATION IN MANY INTERNATIONAL ARENAS. IT IS
THE BASIC FABRIC WHICH BINDS OUR WESTERN INDUSTRIAL
DEMOCRACIES TOGETHER; IT GIVES US OUR COMMON COMMITMENT
AND THE STRENGTH TO PURSUE TOGETHER OUR WORLDWIDE
INTERESTS.

4. MR. MINISTER, IF THERE IS EVIDENCE ANYWHERE
IN THE WORLD THAT A SMALL, FREE COUNTRY CAN BE AN
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IMPORTANT, VITAL AND INDEPENDENT NATION, IT IS SURELY

TO BE FOUND IN NORWAY. YOU HAVE SUCCEEDED IN CREATING A HUMANE AND BALANCED APPROACH TO LIFE WHICH IS THE ENVY AND IDEAL OF MANY NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD. MANY THINGS WE AMERICANS VALUE IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL LEGISLATION, FOR EXAMPLE--UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, SOCIAL SECURITY, THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT--WERE PIONEERED HERE AND HAVE BECOME PART OF OUR OWN LIFE. IN OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR WE ARE EVER MORE MINDFUL OF THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION MADE BY THE THOUSANDS OF NORWEGIANS WHO CAME TO OUR SHORES OVER THE PAST 150 YEARS TO HELP SHAPE OUR DEMOCRACY.

5. NORWAY HAS ALSO PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HOLDING UP DEMOCRACY'S FLAME OF MORAL PURPOSE. OUR BELIEF IN FREEDOM AND OUR COMMON HOPE OF A BETTER FUTURE FOR ALL MANKIND IS FUNDAMENTAL TO ALL OF US HERE TONIGHT. WE ARE NOT AN ALLIANCE OF CONVENIENCE BUT A UNION OF PRINCIPLE DEDICATED TO THE DEFENSE OF DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND OUR WAY OF LIFE. NORWAY HAS PROVIDED THE WORLD BEYOND ITS SHORES WITH GREAT STATESMEN COMMITTED TO THESE IDEALS. WE ARE ALL REMINDED OF DR. NANSEN'S HUMANITARIAN WORK AMONG REFUGEES AND TRYGVE LIE'S VISION WHEN HE WAS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UN. NORWAY'S EARLY AND IMAGINATIVE HELP TO DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN PORTUGAL IS ONLY A RECENT EXAMPLE OF THIS SAME CONCERN.

6. YOU HAVE HAD THE WISDOM TO USE YOUR IDEALISM AS A GUIDE TO PRACTICAL ACTION. A QUARTER OF A CENTURY AGO IN A SPEECH TO THE STORTING, YOUR FARSIGHTED FOREIGN MINISTER HALVARD LANGE SAID: "NORWAY HAS SET ITS COURSE IN CLOSE AND BINDING COMMITMENTS WITH OTHER ATLANTIC DEMOCRACIES. IT IS A COURSE DEMANDING A STERN WILL TO RESIST ATTACK. BUT AT THE SAME TIME IT EXPRESSES AN EQUALLY STRONG DETERMINATION TO MEET OUR ADVERSARIES IN HONEST NEGOTIATIONS . . . I FEEL CERTAIN THAT IF WE CARRY OUR SHARE OF THE BURDEN, WE THE FREE PEOPLE, WILL TOGETHER FIND A WAY TO SSURE US THE PEACE THAT ALL PEOPLES AND NATIONS OF THE WORLD ARE LONGING FOR."

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7. HALVARD LANGE'S VISION OF A QUARTER CENTURY AGO IS A GUIDE TO US TODAY. RARELY IN HISTORY HAS AN ALLIANCE SURVIVED AND INDEED FLOURISHED THROUGH SO MANY VAST CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT. TODAY WE REMAIN, AND MUST REMAIN, UNITED IN OUR OBJECTIVE OF A STRONG DEFENSE. YOU WHO BORDER ON ONE SUPERPOWER AND ARE ALLIED TO ANOTHER KNOW THAT

COLLECTIVE SECURITY IS THE PRECONDITION FOR ALL OUR OTHER POLICIES. TO THAT END PRESIDENT FORD RECENTLY REQUESTED A RECORD DEFENSE BUDGET; YOU TOO HAVE CONTINUED TO INCREASE YOUR OWN CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMON DEFENSE.

8. LET THERE BE NO DOUBT HERE TODAY THAT THE US REMAINS COMMITTED TO THE DEFENSE OF ITS ALLIES. WE REMAIN AS SOLIDLY AND CLOSELY BOUND TO OUR NORTH ATLANTIC PARTNERS AS WE WERE IN THOSE CRUCIAL DAYS IN THE LATE 1940'S WHEN WE LAUNCHED THE MARSHALL PLAN AND SIGNED THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY. WE UNDERSTOOD THEN THE IMPLICATIONS OF OUR DEEP AND INTIMATE INVOLVEMENT WITH EUROPE. TODAY, WE STILL UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT THAT LESSON. WE RECOGNIZE OUR ALLIANCE SECURITY IS INDIVISIBLE; WE CAN TALK OF THE NORTHERN FLANK, THE SOUTHERN FLANK AND THE CENTRAL REGION. BUT WE MUST NEVER FORGET THAT THE SECURITY OF EACH SECTOR VITALLY EFFECTS THE SECURITY OF THE WHOLE ALLIANCE. THIS IS WHY THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE ESSENTIAL ROLE NORWAY PLAYS IN OUR MUTUAL SECURITY. THE DEFENSE OF EUROPE IS TODAY, AS IT WAS IN 1949, A CENTRAL BIPARTISAN OBJECTIVE OF AMERICAN POLICY. THE POLICY OF SUPPORT FOR THE ALLIANCE TODAY ENJOYS BROAD PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT IN THE UNITED STATES.

9. WE MUST ALSO STRIVE TO MAKE THE ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP A DYNAMIC FORCE TO BUILD THE NEW STRUCTURE OF PEACE, TO CONSTRUCT THE AGREEMENTS AND ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL LIMIT THE RISK OF CONFRONTATION AND TO REDUCE ARMAMENTS. BUT OUR RELATIONSHIP IS MORE THAN JUST WEAPONS AND DEFENSE. HALVARD LANGE, WAS
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AMONG THE FIRST VISIONARIES TO SEE THAT DEFENSE WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF OUR UNITY. AS ONE OF NATO'S THREE WISE MEN, HE HELPED DEFINE THE NEED AND LAID OUT THE PLANS TO EXTEND ALLIANCE COOPERATION INTO NON-MILITARY FIELDS TOWARD A GREATER POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY. IN AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD THE UNITY OF THE WESTERN DEMOCRACIES IS ONE OF OUR GREATEST MATERIAL AND MORAL ASSETS.

10. WE VALUE NORWAY'S CONTRIBUTION TO OUR COMMON WORK, YOUR THOUGHTS AND YOUR IDEAS. YOUR COUNTRY'S INFLUENCE IN OUR ALLIANCE AND THE EXAMPLE YOU SET AS A JUST, HUMANE AND DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY HAS A FORCE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

11. AS WE CELEBRATE OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR, I CAN SAY
WITH THE UTMOST SINCERITY THAT WE ARE PROUD OF THE
HERITAGE YOU HAVE BROUGHT TO US, AND WE ARE GLAD TO
BE YOUR FRIENDS.

12. I WOULD LIKE TO LIFT MY GLASS TO YOU, AND, IN
THE TRADITION OF YOUR COUNTRY, TO OUR HOST SAY "TAKK
FOR MATEN" (TAHK FOR MAH-TEN).
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